

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to preempt regular programming to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers that can take place when large companies control the airwaves.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. This action shortly before the action appears to be an example of direct electioneering and appears to be against federal election law. It does seem to be an action that serves the public interest.

When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their interests and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities talking in a FAIR AND BALANCED manner about issues that matter to us in this very important election.

Finally, Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.